

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FILTERING INCOMING CALLS
IN A MOBILE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM****Abstract of the Invention**

A method and apparatus are provided for filtering incoming calls. A request for a call from a calling unit to a mobile subscriber unit is received and a check is performed to determine whether local time information indicates that the mobile subscriber unit is within a time zone in an inconvenient time period. An indication is sent to the calling unit to inform the calling unit that the mobile subscriber unit is in the time zone within the inconvenient time period when the checking of the local time information determines that the local time information is within the inconvenient period. Other aspects of the invention include displaying the mobile subscriber unit's local time on a display of the calling unit, displaying a message to the calling unit asking whether the call is an emergency, only allowing the call to be connected if it is an emergency when the call is made during an inconvenient time period, and generating a voice message to a calling unit when the calling unit attempts to make a call to a called mobile subscriber unit during an inconvenient time period.